

and clinging to the unfailing promises of grace, she followed him still with her patient love. One day she stood before her pastor, "the tears streaming down her careworn cheeks," and besought him to use his influence to reclaim her son. "Wail," said the man of God, "wait patiently; the son of these tears cannot perish."

Now a popular teacher of rhetoric—Augustine leaves Carthage, which he had found a "caldron of unholy loves," to seek his fortune at Milan, the court of the empire. There while winning applause as a rhetorician, he pursues the same godless and dissolute life amid the gayeties and dissipations of the capital. But his mother followed him across the sea and into strange lands; and for thirteen years of manhood, she carries this great sorrow of an apostate son, waiting upon him in love, waiting upon God in faith, saying, "I will see him a Christian yet before I die." At length Patience has its perfect work. Before she dies, Augustine lives. And as her star of hope, which had been the only light of his stormy seas, sinks to its peaceful rest, his son arises to illumine the church of God from age to age.—Thompson's "Christian Graces."

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#### A WORD TO BOYS.

Some one has said: "Boys, did you ever think that this great world, with all its wealth and wo, with all its mines and mountains, its oceans, seas, and views, with all its shipping, its steamboats, railroads, and magnetic telegraphs, with all its millions of men, and all the science and progress of ages, will soon be given over to the hands of the boys of the present age—boys like you, assembled in school-rooms, or playing without them, on both sides of the Atlantic? Believe it, and look abroad upon your inheritance, and get ready to enter upon its possession. The kings, presidents, governors, statesmen, philosophers, ministers, teachers, men of the future, all are boys, whose feet, like yours, cannot reach the floor, when seated on the benches upon which they are learning to master the monosyllables of their respective languages." Boys be making ready to act well your part. Become good scholars. Read only what is instructive. Spend no time with novels. Study science and government, and the history of the world. Study agriculture and mechanism. Become as nearly as possible perfect in the occupation you may choose. Learn prudence and self-control. Have decision of character. Take the Bible for your guide. Become familiar with its teachings, and observe them. Seek wisdom and prosperity from your heavenly Father. As you grow in stature, in bodily strength, and in years, grow in piety, in intelligence, in caution, in activity, in firmness, and in charity. Aspire to be men of the noblest character. Resolve to be useful, and we trust you will be happy. Cherish the feeling, that you were born to receive good and to do good. Be manly in spirit and in act.—*Youth's Evangelist*.

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#### MISTAKES.

1. It is a mistake for a pastor to suppose that he can have his people take an interest in the religious movements of the day, without having a religious periodical circulated among them.

2. It is a mistake for a pastor to suppose that his people can be acquainted with the progress and wants of his own denomination, and contribute liberally to the support of its institutions, unless they are readers of a paper devoted especially to the interests of that branch of the Christian church.

3. It is a mistake for any one to suppose that he can, by the same expenditure in any other way, bring as much religious information before his family as by subscribing and paying for a well-conducted religious paper.

4. It is a mistake for a man to begin to practise economy by stopping his religious paper. To do this is to deprive himself and family of a great benefit.

5. It is a mistake for any one to suppose that a paper can be made exactly what every one would like it to be. The general taste and wants must be consulted.

6. It is a mistake for any one to think that editors can, by any possibility, admit to their columns every article that is sent them. They must often decline contributions ably written, because space is demanded for something of present interest, of which the church and the world wish to read.—*Christian Treasury*.